Remarks

Interview

Applicants and the undersigned greatly appreciate the examiner and her supervisor taking the time and effort to discuss the case. As discussed during the interviews, the claimed compositions contain a lipophilic drug or lipophilic derivative of a drug uniformly dispersed in a carrier material selected from the group consisting of fats, fatty substances, waxes, wax-like substances, or mixtures thereof. The resulting drug-carrier material mixture can be formulated with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients into a unit dosage form, such as a capsule or tablet. The fact that the lipophilic drug or lipophilic derivative of a drug is uniformly dispersed within the lipophilic carrier retards the release of the incorporated drug when the physical integrity of the drug-carrier material is compromised and the resulting material is exposed to water. The composition of the microparticles has been clearly specified as consisting of carrier material as listed in the Markush group having drug dispersed therein, clearly excluding hydrophilic excipients such as those described in the prior art formulations.

As suggested by the supervisor, the phrase "prevents" has been replaced with "retards".

Support for the amendments is found at page 13, line 26 to page 14, line 12; page 15, line 26-28 (drug dispersed in carrier materials to form microparticles); page 5, line 3 (retards release); from cancelled claim 38.

Allowance of claims 1-13, 15, 16, 18-21, 23, 26, 29, 33-37, and 40 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

/ Patrea L. Pabst /

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